a continuous process to meet the growing requirement of demand of power and give the benefits of cost effectiveness, increased reliability, durability of equipments and higher availability of systems improving the performance of power sector as a whole either through research & development or import or technology. To keep abreast with the latest technological advancements, innovations, expertise and other techniques available globally in the field of generation, transmission and distribution and keep continuous interaction with various stakeholders, a Standing Committee on Research & Development comprising of experts from various organizations under Chairman, CEA with DG, 'CPRI as Convener has drawn up a perspective plan on R&D in the power sector. It has identified for special emphasis among other things, adoption of super critical parameters for thermal generation; circulating fluidized bed technology; use of flexible AC transmission (FACTS) for controlling the impedance of line; upgrading/operating of existing lower voltage transmission; solving silt erosion problems/ monitoring cavitations causing erosion and hydro environment interface in the field of hydel power generation; adoption of user friendly software for distribution system, planning & analysis to suit the Indian conditions etc.

Technology upgradation is likely to enhance efficiency and reliability of power system leading to higher availability and better performance of power sector.

Rural electrification in H.P. and U.P.

5209. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages of Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh have been electrified during last three years;

(b) by when the remaining villages will be electrified in these States;

(c) whether all the villages of District Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh have also been electrified;

(d) whether it is a fact that villages Miyanchak, Ghughuri and Sultanpur of Khutahan Block (District Jaunpur) of Uttar Pradesh have not been electrified so far; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor and by when these villages would be fully electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) According to information furnished by UP Power Corporation Ltd., a UP Government Undertaking, the number of villages electrified in Uttar Pradesh during the last three year is as under:—

Year	No. of villages electrified
1999-2000	2554
2000-2001	1527
2001-2002	1106

In Himachal Pradesh according to Central Electricity, Authority (CEA) the number of villages electrified during last three years is as under:—

Year	No. of villages electrified
1999-2000	25
2000-2001	37
2001-2002	05 (as on 28.02.2002)

(b) In the Chief Ministers' Conference held on 3rd March, 2001, it was resolved to complete village electrification by the end of 10th Plan *i.e.* by the year 2007.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) In villages Sultanpur, Ghughuri and Miyanchak, the main portion had already been electrified. Government of Uttar Pradesh has fixed the amount to be spent for electrification of a single village and it covers main part of the village and one SC/ST basti.